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22 September 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

**SUBJECT: Meeting with Robert Michaels re Review of U.S.
Activities in the Far East**

Met with Mr. Robert Michaels, House Appropriations Committee staff, and discussed with him Senator John Cooper's (R., Ky.) statements last week on the floor of the Senate concerning the need for the Senate Armed Services and Foreign Relations Committees to review United States activities in Laos and other countries in the Far East and John Finney's column in the New York Times on Saturday, 20 September, relating to Senator Stuart Symington's (D., Mo.) outline of hearings scheduled to begin on 14 October to review U.S. activities in Laos and the Far East. It was Mr. Michaels opinion that if hearings as outlined in the Finney article carry over to the question of numbers of dollars and appropriation approvals, it could cause embarrassment for Chairman Mahon, but at present the Chairman's attention is directed rather completely toward committee problems. Until such time as members within his own committee might become "upset" by release of information by Symington or others relating to the Appropriations Committee's activities, Chairman Mahon will probably take little notice of the matter.

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Assistant Legislative Counsel

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